

Reason, Gentlemen!

There is nothing so much calculated to cripple an Administration, or to break down the party which it represents, as the constant assaults made upon it by its professed friends. Mr. Lincoln is now undergoing this severe ordeal. Some men seem to think that he ought to bring the deed to life, make times flush, and make and hold all the forts solitary and alone. Every mishap is attributed to his mismanagement; and the unfavorable results of local elections, brought about by the machinations of disappointed office-seekers, are charged to his account.

The Cincinnati Gazette, a paper of which better things were to have been expected, charges that the recent Republican defeat in that city was caused by Lincoln's own policy with regard to the Southern forts. A Dutch paper in St. Louis, not content with the appointment of several Dutch editors in that city to fat offices, and of two-thirds of the German population of the West to good places, to the exclusion of native-born, lays the Republican defeat in that city to Mr. Lincoln's "old womanish" and "imbecile" Southern policy, and his neglect of the Dutch! Some "Muggins" in our State Legislature, has offered a resolution censuring Lincoln for not appointing a Kansas man District Judge, when it is a notorious fact that there is not a man in Kansas that desired the office, who would have made a respectable Judge of the Probate Court, in any of the older States.

For God's sake, gentlemen, keep within the bounds of reason! Lincoln found the country in the most miserable plight imaginable, and since the 4th of March he has been almost tormented to death by hungry office-seeking hounds. It required time and application to ascertain what the condition of the country really was, and what were the best Constitutional remedies to apply. But because he did not shut his eyes, rush headlong into the most serious matters, and by himself accomplish results beyond the power of a thousand men, he is abused and bullied from one end of the Union to the other, by members of his own party, sordid by the adverse results of municipal and Constable's elections, brought about by the lukewarmness of Republicans themselves, or the disaffection of disappointed demagogues.

We believe Lincoln's intention is to do as nearly what is right as possible, and will do that which he deems best, as soon as he sees his way clearly. He wants sufficient time, and the support and sympathy of his friends. If Republicans desire to break down the party, and render the Administration a failure, let them keep on as some of them have begun. Justice demands that censure be withheld until Lincoln has committed some act which deserves it, or at least until those so engaged have an idea of what they are censuring.

"SHERMAN."—We receive our latest news by the St. Joseph Daily Gazette; but, what might appear unaccountable to some, whenever anything exciting is going on, the papers fail to come to hand half the time, and the other half are a day or two behind hand. Such is the case at the present time. We are confident that the publishers are not so meanly disposed as to hold the papers back, just for the sake of depriving us of the news until it is no longer news; but we are well satisfied where the trouble lies. Frequently the papers bear unmistakable signs of having been taken from the wrappers, read, and then replaced. This would detain them at least a day. During an exciting period, several months since, a copy of the Gazette reached us a day or two after it was due. It had evidently been removed from the wrapper, and returned without any particular care; it was much soiled and crumpled, the head was folded inside, and on the margin was scribbled the name of a prominent secessionist of Oregon! We want no better clue to "the chap that stole the onions."

AFTER TAKING PAY.—Immediately after the Senatorial election, members of the Legislature began to scamper off to Washington, to the great danger of leaving that body without a quorum. The fact is, Lane and Pomeroy had bought their votes with promise of office, and the parties went to get their pay. They knew the men they had sold to, and could not trust them with the fulfillment of their promises, without going along to watch them. Some of them will return with elongated countenances.

It is rich, to witness the quarrel between the Leavenworth Herald and the Atchison Union, over the Republican Senators from Kansas. That election bids fair to cause more of a division among the Democracy than the Republicans.

Read the advertisement of T. B. Peterson & Brothers. They are issuing some interesting works, and are always in the front rank in getting up the latest and choicest publications, together with the best established standard works.

See the advertisement, in another column, of Manny's Reeper, for the sale of which O. C. Whitney is Agent in this section of Kansas. It is a cheap yet valuable machine, and one that has withstood the test of thorough trial.

THE WAR NEWS.—Our columns are principally occupied, this week, with the news from Charleston. It will be seen that the excitement throughout the North is intense, and volunteers are offering their services by hundreds of thousands. Politics are thrown aside, and men of all parties are rallying to the support of the Government. The crisis has come to a head, and Southern braggadocio must be put to the test. It can now be seen how many real sympathizers with the Secessionists are to be found in the North. The Southern people were led to believe that the city of New York and several Northern States would make haste to join them. They have been badly deceived, for public sentiment is almost a unit in the North, in favor of sustaining the Government; and there is also a very strong Union feeling in the South. Those miserable dogs in the North, who have been preaching submission to treason for the benefit of Southern ears, and have even been advising the Northern States to adopt the Cotton Constitution, had now better seek some dark hole in which to hide their diminutive heads.

RELIGIOUS INTELLIGENCE.—Since "Ben. the Bloody" can no longer draw a congregation, he has ample time to indulge in his natural propensity—Slander. One of his latest canards is, that the Methodist Episcopal Church has spent \$70,000 in the effort to free the negroes of Missouri. But his hatred of Methodism can be in a great measure overlooked, when we remember that the Church was the cause of his losing his right arm, beside suffering some inconvenience in the use of his tongue!

Old "Shakoleg," the fiddling preacher, who has a desire to cowhide some body, boasts that he has guarded himself against loss in consequence of the crisis, by putting his niggers into his pocket. That's just what the Devil will do with him, some fine day!

TO THE CHARITABLE.—For Mercy's sake, will not some benevolent lexicographer get up a new dictionary of slang terms for the benefit of old "Drygripes," the "well-read man" of the News? He has "chewed over" the terms "har," "if the Court knows herself," "Skeels," "roots and yabs," "ga-lo-ri-ous," and a hundred other slang phrases which his "thorough reading" has fixed in his "sorel top," until they are totally run into the ground, and their wit can no longer be appreciated by any one save himself. All his editorials are made up entirely of them; and at the request of several of his subscribers, we suggest that here is a fine field for the disinterested efforts of philanthropists.

BIG MAN, ME!—Jim Lane, when on his way to Washington, stopped at Atchison, where they had a big burrah over him. In response, he told what tremendous things he should bring to pass—there should be immense crops this season; the Pacific Railroad should run up the Kansas Valley, as Nature designed; people in other parts of the State might build branches connecting with that Road, if they so desired, but the main trunk must run up the Valley aforesaid; and the State generally should prosper. As Jim promises to deal in the miraculous, perhaps he can tell us whether he intends to bring poor Jenkins to life again!

When Quacks and quack medicines so abound, people should be careful to use only remedies of established reputation. Don't experiment on yourselves, but take those preparations which have proved themselves capable of curing, and remember always that Currie's Mameluke Liniment has entitled itself to an enviable reputation. No other medicine is so speedy in relieving the afflicted, in all those cases for which it is recommended. This is also true of Compound Syrup of Sassafras. It has never failed to give entire satisfaction in cases where it has been properly administered. See advertisement.

Mr. Larnsore has failed in his contest for a seat in the Legislature. This is all right and proper. In fact, if we understand the Legislative proceedings rightly, he did not claim that he had received a majority of the votes. We are therefore more surprised that he undertook the contest.

It is rumored, as we go to press, that Gen. Lane has been given command of 10,000 troops at Washington, and that he will immediately resign his seat in the Senate, and devote himself to the service of the country. If this be true, we begin to like his style.

It is rich, to witness the quarrel between the Leavenworth Herald and the Atchison Union, over the Republican Senators from Kansas. That election bids fair to cause more of a division among the Democracy than the Republicans.

OVER IN OREGON.—A meeting of the Holt County News was held in Oregon, on Monday, it being the first day of Circuit Court. The great Mormon Prophet, from Savannah, had announced himself before-hand to speak there. Secessionists all on hand. Willard P. Hall ably answered the Mormon Prophet, but was interrupted by the crowd of boys and traitors, (scarcely any Union men being there, and nearly all the Secessionists of Holt County being present.) One man who has heretofore been considered a gentleman, cried out, "We don't want to hear you." The first three letters of his name are I. S. H. At the conclusion, old "Guts" proposed, through a pretty little penny whistle mouth-piece of his, some resolutions, the sum and substance of which was, an endorsement of the Prophet's course in the Convention, and a recommendation of the "family organ" as a good newspaper and worthy of sustenance. Of course, "Drygripes," the sleepy old Yankee who conducts it, received a compliment.

The whole thing is ridiculed by all who hear of it, outside of the few con-cocters and their tools.

The traitors over in Holt swear that the Omaha must be stopped, when she comes down with those troops from Fort Randall. If the Omaha were a whiskey barrel, she would be in great danger of an attack!

We acknowledge the receipt, from the office of the Nebraska Farmer, of a variety of choice Garden Seeds, for which Mr. Furnas will accept our thanks.

WAR BEGUN!

Fort Sumter Taken!

Anderson a Prisoner!

VOLUNTEERS CALLED FOR!

PROCLAMATION FOR AN EXTRA SESSION.

Hostilities have commenced in earnest, and the country is wild with excitement. We give the despatches, as they were received, from the commencement of the hostile demonstrations. They are all from South Carolina sources, and allowance must be made for exaggeration, and for a Southern coloring to all the statements; but we presume the main facts are correct:—

CHARLESTON, S. C., April 12. The following is the telegraphic correspondence between the War Department at Montgomery, and Gen. Beauregard, immediately preceding the hostilities. The correspondence grew out of the formal notification by the Washington Government, which is disclosed in Gen. Beauregard's first dispatch:

No. 1.] CHARLESTON, April 8. To L. P. WALKER, Secretary of War, Montgomery: An authorized messenger from President Lincoln just informed Gov. Pickens and myself that provisions will be sent to Fort Sumter peacefully, or otherwise by force. (Signed,) G. T. BEAUREGARD.

No. 2.] MONTGOMERY, April 10. To GEN. G. T. BEAUREGARD, Charleston: If you have no doubt of the authorized character of the agent who communicated to you the intention of the Washington Government to supply Fort Sumter by force, you will at once demand its evacuation, and if this is refused, proceed in such manner as you may determine to reduce it. Answer. (Signed,) L. P. WALKER, Secretary of War.

No. 3.] CHARLESTON, April 10. To L. P. WALKER, Secretary of War, Montgomery: The demand will be made to-morrow, at 12 o'clock. (Signed,) G. T. BEAUREGARD.

No. 4.] MONTGOMERY, April 10. To GEN. BEAUREGARD: Unless there are special reasons connected with your own condition, it is considered proper that you should make the demand at an early hour. (Signed,) L. P. WALKER, Secretary of War.

No. 5.] CHARLESTON, April 10. To L. P. WALKER, Montgomery: The reasons are special for twelve o'clock. (Signed,) G. T. BEAUREGARD.

No. 6.] CHARLESTON, April 11. To L. P. WALKER, Secretary of War, Montgomery: The demand was sent at 2 o'clock, and until six o'clock allowed to answer. (Signed,) G. T. BEAUREGARD.

No. 7.] MONTGOMERY, April 11. To GEN. BEAUREGARD, Charleston: Telegraph the reply of Major Anderson. (Signed,) L. P. WALKER, Secretary of War.

No. 8.] CHARLESTON, April 11. To L. P. WALKER, Secretary of War, Montgomery: Major Anderson replies: "I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your communication demanding the evacuation of this fort, and to say in reply thereto, that it is a demand with which I regret that my sense of honor and my obligations to my Government prevent my compliance." He adds: "Probably I will await the first shot, and if you do not better us to pieces, we will be starved out in a few days." Answer. (Signed,) G. T. BEAUREGARD.

No. 9.] MONTGOMERY, April 11. To GEN. BEAUREGARD, Charleston: We do not desire needlessly to bombard Fort Sumter. If Major Anderson will state the time at which an indicated by him he will evacuate, and agree that in the meantime he will not use his guns against us unless our should be employed against Fort Sumter, you are thus to avoid the effusion of blood. If this or its

equivalent be refused, reduce the Fort as your judgment decides to be the most practicable. L. P. WALKER, Secretary of War. (Signed.)

No. 10.] CHARLESTON, April 12. To L. P. WALKER, Secretary of War, Montgomery: He would not consent. I write to-day. (Signed,) G. T. BEAUREGARD.

CHARLESTON, April 11.—Intercepted dispatches disclose the fact that Mr. Fox, who had been allowed to visit Major Anderson on the pledge that his purpose was pacific, employed his opportunity to devise a plan for supplying the fort by force, and that this plan had been adopted by the Washington Government and was in progress of execution.

SECOND DISPATCH.

CHARLESTON, April 12.—The ball has opened, war is inaugurated. The batteries of Sullivan's Island, Morris' Island, and other points were opened on Fort Sumter at 4 o'clock this morning. Fort Sumter has returned the fire, and a brisk cannonading has been kept up. No information has been received from the sea-board yet. The military are under arms, and the whole of our population are on the streets, and every available space facing the harbor is filled with anxious spectators.

New York, April 12.—The Herald's special correspondent says: Fort Moultrie began the bombardment with two guns, to which Anderson replied with three shots from his barbettes guns, after which the batteries at Mount Pleasant, Cummings' Point, and the floating battery opened a brisk fire of shot and shell.

Anderson replied only at long intervals, until between 7 and 8 o'clock, when he opened from two tiers of guns looking towards Moultrie and Stevens' Battery, but up to 8 o'clock, failed to produce serious effect.

During the greater part of the day, Anderson directed his shots principally against Moultrie, the Stevens and floating batteries, and Fort Johnson, they being the only ones operating against him. Fifteen or eighteen shots struck the floating battery, without effect.

Breaches, to all appearances, are being made in the sides of Sumter exposed to the fire. Portions of the parapets were destroyed, and several guns shot away.

The fight will continue all night. The Fort will probably be carried by storm.

It is reported that the Harriet Lane received a shot through her wheelhouse. She is in the offing.

No other Government ships are in sight.

The troops are pouring into the city by thousands.

THIRD DISPATCH.

CHARLESTON, April 12.—The firing has continued all day without intermission. Two of Fort Sumter's guns have been silenced, and it is reported that a breach has been made in the south-east wall. The answer to Gen. Beauregard's demand by Major Anderson, was that he would surrender when his supplies were exhausted, that is if he was not reinforced. Not a casualty has yet happened to any of the forces. Of the nineteen batteries in position, only seven have opened fire on Fort Sumter; the remainder are held in reserve for the expected fleet. Two thousand men reached this city this morning, and embarked for Morris' Island and the neighborhood.

FOURTH DISPATCH.

The bombardment continues from the floating, Stevens, and other batteries. Sumter continues to return the fire. It is reported that three war vessels are now off the bar.

FIFTH DISPATCH.

The firing has ceased for the night, but will be renewed early in the morning. Ample arrangements have been made to prevent any reinforcements reaching Anderson to-night.

[SPECIAL TO THE NEW YORK HERALD.]

Two men have been wounded on Sullivan's Island, and a number struck by spent projectiles. Three ships-of-war are visible in the offing, and it is believed that an attempt will be made to-night to reinforce Sumter.

From the regularity of the firing, it is thought that Anderson has a larger force than was supposed.

LATER FROM CHARLESTON.

The bombardment has recommenced with mortars, and will be kept up all night.

It is supposed that Anderson is resting his men for the night.

The vessels cannot get in, as a storm is raging and the sea is rough, making it impossible to reinforce Sumter to-night. The floating battery works well.

A regiment of Kentucky Volunteers at Louisville, have been ordered by the War Department at Montgomery to hold themselves in readiness.

An extra session of the Confederate Congress has been called for April 29th. It is said the expedition to reinforce Sumter was against the advice of Gen. Scott, who urged the evacuation of Sumter and Pickens.

New York, April 12.—The Commercial says: Beverly Johnson, now here, expresses warm approval of the President's present movement, and emphatically affirms that Maryland will give the Administration cordial support.

St. Louis, April 12.—F. M.—The regular Charleston dispatches of this morning, dated 10:30 o'clock, state that at intervals of twenty minutes firing was kept up all night on Fort Sumter. Major Anderson ceased firing from Sumter at 6 o'clock in the evening. All night he was engaged in repairing damages and protecting the barbettes guns. He commenced to return the fire at 7 o'clock this morning.

Fort Sumter seems to be greatly disabled. The battery on Cummings' Point does Fort Sumter great damage. At 9 o'clock this morning, a dense smoke poured out from Sumter. The Federal flag is at half mast, signaling distress.

The shells from Fort Moultrie and the batteries on Morris Island, fall into Major Anderson's strongest held thick and fast, and they can be seen in their course from the Charleston battery.

The cannonading is going on furiously from all points, from the vessels outside and all along the coast.

The President and Secretary of the Confederate States were serenaded on the night of the 12th, at Montgomery. The Secretary of War was called out, and said that the Confederate flag would soon be waving over Fort Sumter, and from the Federal Capital at Washington, if the independence of the Southern States was not recognized, and hostilities continued.

A Washington dispatch to the New York Tribune says: Commander Fox commands the vessels with provisions which is to lead the expedition into Charleston.

The President received the news calmly, and with a confident feeling that he had done his duty in the matter.

Senator Sherman arrived from Ohio, and reports the Republicans there ready to stand by him to the last.

President Lincoln has directed that Capt. Wm. B. St. Johns, 3d Infantry, and Lieut. Abner Sneed, 1st Artillery, cease to be officers of the army.

The regular troops here have been ordered to proceed to the outskirts of the city, to watch every avenue there, while the volunteers recently mustered, guard the armories and public buildings.

Videttes are constantly seen riding through the streets.

The war news is received with feelings of regret. There is no excitement, but the prospect for the future creates a general feeling of depression.

Gov. Sprague, of Rhode Island, has tendered to the Government the services of the Marine Artillery and one thousand Infantry, and offers to accompany them himself.

The war news from Charleston creates profound sensation in Boston, and throughout the State. The general sentiment is that the Federal Government is right and shall be sustained.

Orders have been received at New York to fit out the frigate Merrimac immediately.

It is denied that any portion of the Confederate loan has been offered in New York. The entire amount has been arranged at par within the limits of the Confederacy.

SUMTER TAKEN.

2000 Shots Fired—The Fort in Flames—Anderson Surrendered—The people of Charleston wild with Joy!

CHARLESTON, April 13. It is reported that Fort Sumter is on fire.

CHARLESTON, April 13, 10:30 A. M.—STILL LATER.—At intervals of twenty minutes, firing was kept up all night on Sumter.

Two of Major Anderson's magazines exploded. Only occasional shots are fired from Fort Moultrie.

The Morris Island battery is doing heavy work. It is thought that only the smaller magazines have exploded.

The greatest excitement prevails. The wharves, steeples, and every available place is packed with people.

The U. S. ships are in the offing, but have not aided Major Anderson. It is too late now to come over the bar, as the tide is ebbing.

The ships appear to be quietly at anchor. They have not fired a gun yet.

The entire roof of the barracks is one sheet of flames.

Shells from Cummings' Point and Fort Moultrie are bursting in and over Fort Sumter in quick succession.

The Federal flag still waves. Major Anderson is only occupied in putting out fire.

Every shot on Fort Sumter now seems to tell severely.

The people are anxiously looking for Major Anderson to strike his flag.

It is stated from reliable sources that up to 10 o'clock to-day, no one at Moultrie was killed.

Eleven shots from Fort Sumter penetrated the floating battery below the water line.

The few shots fired by Major Anderson early this morning, knocked the chimneys from the officers' quarters at Moultrie like a whirlwind.

Major Anderson's only hope is to hold out for aid from the ships.

Two ships are making in towards Morris' Island, with a view to land troops, and silence the batteries. The flames are raging all around it.

Major Anderson has thrown out a raft loaded with men who are passing up buckets of water to extinguish the fire. The fort is scarcely discernible. The men on the raft are now objects of fire from Morris Island. With glasses, balls can be seen skipping over the water, striking the unprotected raft. Great havoc is created among the poor fellows. It is surmised that Major Anderson is gradually blowing up the Fort. He scarcely fires a gun.

At half past 11 o'clock flames were bursting from all the port holes. The destruction of Fort Sumter is inevitable.

Four vessels, two of them large steamers, are in sight over the bar. The large one appears to be engaging Morris Island. The flames have nearly subsided in Sumter, but Major Anderson does not fire any guns.

Gen. Beauregard left the wharf just now in a boat for Morris' Island. The excitement is, if anything, increasing.

I have received a letter from S. B. Boylston, dated at Moultrie, 6 o'clock this A. M. He says not one man was killed or wounded.

The iron battery had been damaged. The rifled cannon of the battery did great execution on Sumter, and were all aimed at Anderson's port holes.

Three of Sumter's barbettes guns were dismantled, one of which was a ten inch columbiad.

A corner of Fort Sumter opposite Moultrie, was knocked off.

The steamers Water Witch, Mohawk, and Pawnee, it was thought were the first vessels seen in the offing.

Another correspondent says the bombardment has closed. Major Anderson has hauled down the stars and stripes and displayed a white flag, which has been answered from the city, as a boat is on the way to Sumter.

The breaches made in Fort Sumter are in the side opposite to Cummings' point. Two of the port holes are knocked into one, and the wall from the top is crumbling.

Three vessels—one of them a large steamer—are over the bar, and seem to be preparing to participate in the conflict.

The fire of Morris Island and Moultrie is divided between Sumter and the ships of war.

The ships have not yet opened.

The batteries of Sullivan's Island, Cummings' Point, and Stevens' Battery, are pouring shot and shell into Fort Sumter. Major Anderson does not return the fire.

Fort Sumter is still on fire.

There has just been two explosions at Fort Sumter.

CHARLESTON, April 13, P. M.—The Federal flag was again hoisted over Fort Sumter, when Porcher Miles, with a flag of truce, went to the Fort.

In a few minutes the Federal flag was again drawn down by Major Anderson, and the white flag again unfurled.

CHARLESTON, 13th (via Augusta, Ga.)—Fort Sumter has surrendered. The Confederate flag floats over its walls.

None of the garrison or Confederate troops are hurt.

Gen. Beauregard has just gone to Fort Sumter; also three fire companies to quench the fire before it reaches the magazines.

Fort Sumter has been unconditionally surrendered. The people are wild with joy.

No Carolinians were hurt. Two thousand shots were fired altogether.

Anderson and men were conveyed to Morris Island under guard.

Major Anderson has reached the city, the guest of Gen. Beauregard.

The people sympathize with Anderson, but abhor those in the steamers in sight, who did not even attempt to reinforce him.

The wood work and officers' quarters of Fort Sumter are all burned. No officers were wounded.

The fort was taken possession of to-night.

Gen. Beauregard telegraphed to the Secretary of War last night, that there had been heavy firing all Friday; that four guns of Fort Sumter had been dismounted; that the Confederate batteries were all safe; that nobody was hurt; that four steamers were off the bar; and that the sea was quite rough.

Nothing of to-day's proceedings has been received by the War Department, from Charleston.

Five of Anderson's men were wounded—one of them thought mortally.

After the surrender, a boat was sent from a ship of War outside to Morris' Island, requesting permission for the vessel to enter and take off Anderson's command.

Particulars of the Fight at Sumter!

Proclamation of the President—He calls for 75,000 Volunteers—North Thoroughly Aroused—Assistance Tendered by the Free States!

Later accounts confirm the report of the surrender.

The Carolinians are surprised that the fight is over.

Soon after the flag staff was shot over, Wigfall was sent by Beauregard to Sumter with a white flag, to offer assistance to subdue the flames. He was met by Major Anderson, who said he had just displayed a white flag, but the batteries had not stopped firing. Wigfall replied that Anderson must haul down the American flag. Surrender or fight was the word. Major Anderson then hauled down the flag.

Several of Gen. Beauregard's staff came and stipulated that the surrender be unconditional for the present, subject to the terms of Gen. Beauregard.

Major Anderson was allowed to remain in possession at present.

Dispatches of the 14th say the negotiations were completed on Saturday night.

Major Anderson's command were to evacuate Sunday morning, and embark on the war vessels in the harbor.

It is reported that Anderson's surrender was because his quarters and barracks were destroyed, and he had no hope of reinforcement. The fleet lay by for thirty hours and could not, or would not help him. His men were prostrated by over exertion.

The explosions heard at Sumter were caused by a lot of shells igniting. The barracks caught fire three times from hot shot from Fort Moultrie. Everything is in ruins but the casemates. Many guns are dismantled. The walls look like honey-comb.

Fort Moultrie is badly damaged, and the houses on the island are badly rid-dled.

A boat from the Fort to night official ly notified the fleet of the surrender of Fort Sumter.

It is not known what will be done with Fort Sumter or the vanquished. Further accounts state that Major Anderson and his men were to leave Sunday night, 14th inst., on the Isabel for New York. The fleet was still outside.

In Mr. Lincoln's reply to the Virginia Commissioners on Saturday, after expressing his regret at the public mind is still uncertain as to his course, and affirming the policy marked out in his inaugural address, he said, "but if as now appears to be true, in the pursuit of a purpose to drive the U. S. authorities from those places, an unprovoked assault has been made upon Sumter, I shall hold myself at liberty to respond if I can, like places which had been seized before the Government was devoted upon me, and in any event, I shall, to the best of my ability, repel force by force. In case it proves true that Sumter has been assaulted as is reported, I shall perhaps cause the U. S. Mail to be withdrawn from all the States which claim to have seceded, believing that the commencement of actual war against the Government, justifies and probably demands it. Whatever else I may do for the purpose, I shall not attempt to collect the duties on imports by any invasion of any part of the country. Not meaning by this, however, that I may not land forces if deemed necessary to relieve a Fort upon the border of the country."

Arrangements have been made in Washington to concentrate the military at any threatened point. The greatest anxiety is manifested to keep further